

Message

From: Wintrob, Paul [Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov]
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To: R1 Executives All [R1ExecutivesALL@epa.gov]; R1 Communications Team [R1_Communications_Team@epa.gov]
Subject: New England Congressional Delegation Capitol Hill Update | Friday, Sep 14, 2018

**New England Congressional Delegation
Capitol Hill Update**

Office of Public Affairs
Friday, Sep 14, 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None of note this week.

Hearings

Sep 6 - Perfluorinated Chemicals (PFAS) in the Environment

House Energy & Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment. Peter Grevatt, OW/OGWDW to testify.

Sep 6 - Permitting: Finding a Path Forward

House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment

Sep 6 - Evaluating Federal Disaster Response and Recovery Efforts

House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Sep 13 - H.R. 6147, The minibus appropriations package which includes the Fiscal Year 2019 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

The Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Sep 13- Air Quality Impacts of Wildfires: Mitigation and Management Strategies

House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on the Environment.

Sep 13 - Examining the Underlying Science and Impacts of Glider Truck Regulations

House Science Subcommittee on Environment and Subcommittee on Oversight.

Sep 13 - Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Sep 26 - The Federal Role in the Toxic PFAS Chemical Crisis

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight.

Oct 1 - Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule Public Hearing in Chicago, IL

EPA Hearing. The public comment period on the proposed ACE rule will be open until Oct 31.

Appropriations

Congress is eyeing votes in September, if all goes as planned, on three packages of appropriations conference reports. In addition to the Defense and Labor-HHS-Education measure, conferees are working on a second bundle of bills covering Energy-Water, Legislative Branch and Military Construction-VA (HR 5895) and a third for Agriculture, Transportation-HUD and Financial Services and Interior-Environment bills (HR 6147).

LEGISLATION

115th Congress | Jan 3, 2017, to Jan 3, 2019

New England Delegation Legislation with Recent Activity

S.2602 - Barrasso (WY)/Whitehouse (RI)/Capito (WV)/ Heitkamp (ND), Carbon Dioxide Utilization and Direct Air Capture Research

A bill to support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, to facilitate development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines. Two additional original co-sponsors. A sister House bill has also been introduced H.R.5387. On May 22, 2018, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (SEPW) passed by voice vote the "Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies (USE IT) Act.". The bill would direct EPA to support carbon utilization and air capture research and require the White House Council on Environmental Quality to establish guidance on CO2 pipelines and clarify that carbon removal projects qualify under the permitting review process established by the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The USE IT Act was changed since its legislative hearing in order to gain the support of SEPW ranking member, Sen. Carper. According to Sen. Carper, new text adds environmental safeguards and public notice and comment periods for any guidance produced by CEQ on permitting, would require EPA to consult with the Department of Energy to avoid program duplication, and would direct CEQ to produce a report assessing regulatory gaps and providing permitting process information for project developers.

Sep 13, 2018 Update: Sens. Barrasso's and Whitehouse's bill to promote carbon capture and usage and direct air capture technology, the Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technology (USE IT) Act (S. 2602), is under consideration for unanimous consent in the Senate. And activity moving toward introduction of a companion House bill is underway.

S.3398 – Carper (DE)/Hirono (HI)/Warren (MA)/Peters (MI), Bill to require repayment of wasteful agency spending, and for other purposes

New England Delegation Legislation with No New Activity

S.519 Gillibrand/Schumer (NY), requires SDWA MCLG and MCL for PFOA, PFOS, 1,4-dioxane, and perchlorate within two years

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to require the Administrator of the EPA to establish maximum contaminant levels for certain contaminants, and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation. Cosponsors: Schumer (NY), Hassan (NH).

S.675 Gillibrand (NY), Long Island Sound Funding

To amend and reauthorize certain provisions relating to Long Island Sound restoration and stewardship. Cosponsors: Schumer (NY), Blumenthal (CT), Murphy (CT).

S.756 - Sullivan (AK)/Whitehouse (RI), Save Our Seas Act

To reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris. 21 Co-sponsors including: King (ME), Collins (ME), Warren (MA), Markey (MA), Shaheen (NH), Murphy (CT). 08/03/2017 Senate Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent. 08/08/2017 House Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans. Action By: Committee on Natural Resources. Latest Action: House - 06/27/2018 Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

S.914 Shaheen (NH)/Portman (OH), Enhances Federal Coordination and State Assistance for Emerging Contaminant Testing and Analysis

Also called "Safe Drinking Water Assistance Act of 2017." Cosponsors: Portman (OH), Hassan (NH).

S.1769 Hassan (NH), Connected Government Act

Requires a federal agency that creates or updates a public website ensure that it is mobile friendly.

S.1979 — Murphy (CT) A bill to block the implementation of certain presidential actions that restrict individuals from certain countries from entering the United States

Introduced on Oct 18 with 30 co-sponsors. Two additional co-sponsors added Wyden (OR), Udall (NM).

S.2198 – Booker (NY)/Menendez (NJ)/Whitehouse (RI), Superfund Polluter Pays Restoration Act of 2017

To amend the IRS of 1986 to reinstate the financing for the Hazardous Substance Superfund.

S.2321 — Warren (MA), Transition Team Ethics Improvement Act

Amend Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to require the development of ethics plans for certain transition teams, and for other purposes. Cosponsors: Hassan (NH), Markey (MA).

S.2232 King (ME), Amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978

Provide for the integration of distributed energy resources, to modernize electricity grid infrastructure.

On Dec 14, the bill was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S.2298 Whitehouse (RI), New England Coastal Protection Act

To prohibit oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of New England. Co-sponsors: Markey (MA), Hassan (NH), Shaheen (NH), Reed (RI), King (ME), Warren (MA), Blumenthal (CT), Collins (ME), Murphy (CT).

S.2368 — Whitehouse (RI)/Schatz (HI), 1986 IRS Code

To amend the IRS code to provide for carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emission fees, reduce the rate of the corporate income tax, provide tax credits to workers, deliver additional benefits to retired and disabled Americans, and for other purposes.

S.2388 — Sanders (VT)/Harris (CA)/Markey (MA)/Gillibrand (NY), Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Act of 2018

To provide for consultation with state, tribal, and local governments, and approval of post-shutdown decommissioning activities reports by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

S.2396 — Harris (CA)/Sanders (VT)/Markey (MA)/Gillibrand (NY), Amend Atomic Energy Act of 1954

To prohibit waivers/exemptions from emergency preparedness and response and security regulations.

S.2422 — Warren (MA), Require a Study on the Health Impacts of Air Traffic Noise and Pollution

Co-sponsored by Markey (MA).

S.2472 – Nelson (FL)/Collins (ME), Coastal Coordination Act of 2018

To reauthorize the Coastal Management Act of 1972.

S.2612 – Markey (MA), To Establish a Clean Technology Consortia

A bill to provide for the establishment of clean technology consortia to enhance the economic, environmental, and energy security of the United States by promoting domestic development, manufacture, and deployment of clean technologies, and for other purposes.

S.2643 - Markey (MA)/Whitehouse (RI)/Van Hollen (MD)/Smith (MN)/Blumenthal (CT)/Merkley (OR)/ Bennet (CO), Greener Air Standards Mean Our National Security, Environment, and Youth Saved Act

A bill to clarify the effect of certain final rules and determinations of EPA relating to greenhouse gas emissions standards for light-duty vehicles.

S.2649 - Whitehouse (RI) Natural Gas Demand Response Pilot Program

A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a natural gas demand response pilot program.

S.2719 - Shaheen (NH), Requires VA Registry of Service Members Potentially Exposed to PFAS

Four co-sponsors, including Hassan (NH).

S.2740 — Markey (MA)/Warren (MA)/Shaheen (NH)/Sanders (VT), Authorize NOAA to establish a Climate Change Education Program

Five additional original co-sponsors.

S.2747 – Hassan (NH)/ Markey (MA)/Shaheen (NH)/Sanders (VT), S.2747 - National Evaluation of Techniques for Making Energy Technologies More Efficient and Resilient Act of 2018

Bill to provide for the study and evaluation of net metering, and for other purposes.

S.2865 – Bladwin (WI)/Smith (MN)/Merkley (OR)/Sanders (VT)/Murphy (CT)/Blumenthal (CT)/Durbin (IL), Made in America Act of 2018

To ensure that certain materials used in carrying out Fed infrastructure aid programs are made in US.

Whitehouse (RI) was an additional co-sponsor.

S.2886 — Markey (MA), Amend Energy Policy and Conservation Act to reinstate ban on export of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States.

S.3151 - Hirono (HI)/Warren (MA)/Reed (RI)/Whitehouse (RI)/Blumenthal (CT) Sanders (VT) Markey (MA)/Hassan (NH)/Shaheen (NH)/ Leahy (VT), A bill to secure the rights of public employees to organize, act concertedly, and bargain collectively, which safeguard the public interest and promote the free and unobstructed flow of commerce, and for other purposes.

23 additional original co-sponsors.

S.3154 -Wyden (OR)/ Sanders (VT), Bill to ensure Members of Congress have access to Federal facilities in order to exercise their Constitutional oversight responsibilities

One additional original co-sponsor.

S.3192 – Markey (MA)/Sanders (VT)/Whitehouse (RI), CLEARR Drinking Water Act

Increases funding for small/disadvantaged community WIIN grant program and addresses drinking water technical assistance, testing, reporting, and notification. Nine additional original co-sponsors.

S.3312 - Merkley (OR)/Markey (MA), A bill to suspend proposed rulemaking signed by former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency Scott Pruitt, and for other purposes.

S.3355 -- Blumenthal (CT), Bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to remove the manifestation period required for the presumptions of service connection for chloracne, porphyria cutanea tarda, and acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents.

H.R. -- Shuster (PA), House T&I infrastructure bill, including WIFIA, CWSRF, CWA 401, and nonpoint source funding provisions

Discussion draft introduced Jul 23. Since this is a draft we don't know who will be listed as an original co-sponsor.

H.R.723 - Kinzinger (IL)/ Welch (VT), Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships Act of 2017

Six additional cosponsors. Feb 23, placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 435.

H.R.1176 – Pingree (ME) Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act

Amends Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to direct NOAA to establish a Working Waterfront Grant Program.

Cosponsors: Wittman (VA), Keating (MA).

H.R. 1674 DeLauro (CT), Long Island Sound Restoration Reauthorization

Reauthorizes the Management Conference of the LIS Study, the LIS Stewardship Act of 2006, the LIS Grants, and LIS Stewardship Grants through FY23. Cosponsors: Zeldin (NY), Suozzi (NY), Courtney (CT), Himes (CT), Esty (CT), Larson (CT), King (NY), Engel (NY).

H.R. 1758 Rep. Katko (NY)/Rep. Esty (CT); The Brownfields Reauthorization Act of 2017

Would reauthorize the Brownfields program at EPA. 7/27/17 was reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Cosponsors: Katko (NY), DeFazio (OR), Napolitano (CA). On Nov 21, the House Report was amended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 115-419, Part I.

H.R.4209 – Larson (CT) Rebuild Nation's Infrastructure, Provide Consumer Rebate, Assist Coal Country, Reduce Harmful Pollution 16 Cosponsors including Rep. Capuano (MA).

H.R.4774 Cicilline (RI) New England Coastal Protection Act

Co-sponsored by: Capuano (MA), Clark (MA), DeLauro (CT), Esty (CT), Himes (CT), Keating (MA), Kennedy (MA), Kuster (NH), Langevin (RI), Larson (CT), Lynch (MA), McGovern (MA) Moulton (MA), Neal (MA), Pingree (ME), Shea-Porter (NH), Tsongas (MA), Welch (VT), Poliquin (ME), Courtney (CT).

H.R.4812 — Cicilline (RI), 21st Century Buy American Act

To amend the Buy American Act to provide greater transparency regarding exceptions to domestic sourcing requirements, and for other purposes.

H.R.4926 – Blumenauer (OR)/Cicilline (RI), American Opportunity Carbon Fee Act of 2018

To amend the IRS Code of 1986 to provide for carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emission fees, reduce the rate of the corporate income tax, provide tax credits to workers, deliver additional benefits to retired and disabled Americans, and for other purposes.

H.R.4976 — Welch (VT), Empowering State Forestry to Improve Forest Health Act of 2018

Amends Cooperative Forestry Assist. Act of 1978 to direct Forest Service to establish a landscape-scale restoration program to provide financial and tech assistance for landscape-scale restoration projects on state and private forest lands that maintain or improve benefits from trees and forests on such lands.

H.R.4992 — Esty (CT), NOTICE Act of 2017

To amend CAA to direct permitting authorities to notify municipalities within 30 miles of a source of certain permit applications and proposed permits, and for other purposes. *(This legislation is in response to the new Cricket Valley Energy Center in Dover Plains, NY, which is close the CT state border – OEP's Donald Dahl provided some excellent to info Esty's office re: current notification requirements.)*

H.R.5015 — Blumenauer (OR)/McGovern (MA)/Tsongas (MA)/ Clark (MA)/Kuster (NH)/ DeLauro (CT)/Esty (CT)/Shea-Porter (NH) Saving America's Pollinators Act of 2018

36 co-sponsors.

H.R.5042 - Cartwright (PA)/ McGovern (MA)/Kuster (NH)/Welch (VT) Financing Energy Efficient Manufacturing Program at the DoE

To provide financial assistance to promote energy efficiency and onsite renewable technologies.

H.R.5069 - Welch (VT)/Kinzinger (IL), Establish Federal Smart Building Program

To implement smart building technology and demonstrate the costs and benefits of smart buildings.

H.R.5114 – Bonamici (OR)/McGovern (MA), Amend the Toxic Substances Control Act

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take action to eliminate human exposure to asbestos, and for other purposes. Seven additional original co-sponsors.

H.R.5143 – Amash (MI)/Moulton (MA), Searchable Legislation Act of 2018

To require all bills, resolutions, and other documents of Congress to be created, transmitted, and published in searchable electronic formats, and for other purposes. 15 additional co-sponsors.

H.R.5212 — Welch (VT), Amend the Clean Air Act to reform the renewable fuel program.

H.R.5275 – Long (MO)/Kuster (NH), Amend CERCLA of 1980 to provide an exemption from certain notice requirements and penalties for air emissions from animal waste at farms. Kuster (NH) was one of the bill’s 86 original co-sponsors.

H.R.5291 - Tsongas (MA)/Keating (MA), To establish an offshore wind career training grant program.
One additional original co-sponsor, Grijalva (AZ).

H.R.5321 - Moulton (MA), To Improve Communication from Federal Agencies to Individuals
A bill to improve communication from Federal agencies to individuals by requiring clear instructions, and for other purposes. Three co-sponsors.

H.R.5391 – Beyer (VA), Compensation of Federal Employees Furloughed During a Shutdown
97 original co-sponsors including: Shea-Porter (NH)/Cicilline (RI), Clark (MA)/Pingree (ME)/Lynch (MA)DeLauro (CT)/Kuster (NH)/Langevin/ McGovern (MA)/ Welch (VT)/Esty (CT).

H.R.5579 – Esty (CT)/DeLauro (CT)/Himes (CT)/Larson (CT), Amend the IRS Code of 1986 to Extend Expensing of Environmental Remediation Costs
Two additional original co-sponsors.

H.R.5606 – Shea-Porter (NH)/McGovern (MA)/Welch (VT), Authorize the NOA to establish a Climate Change Education Program
Seven additional original co-sponsors.

H.R.5609 - Ellison (MN)/Capuano (MA)/McGovern (MA)/Welch (VT)/Shea-Porter (NH), To establish a trust fund to provide for adequate funding for water and sewer infrastructure
32 additional original co-sponsors.

H.R.5610 – Knight (CA)/Welch (VT), BEST Act of 2018
Amend the US Energy Storage Competitiveness Act of 2007 to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish new goals for the DOE relating to energy storage and to carry out certain demonstration projects. 13 additional co-sponsors.

H.R.5669 - Velazquez (NY)/Shea-Porter (NH)/ McGovern (MA), Amend the IRS Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to reduce costs for certain businesses required to relocate from a Superfund site.
14 additional original co-sponsors.

H.R.5904 — Chabot (OH)/Cicilline (RI)/ Goodlatte (VA)/Nadler (NY)/ Marino (PA)/Handel (GA) NOPEC
To amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal

H.R.5959 – Mullin (OK)/Larson (CT), To promote national security and jobs through the use of natural gas to fuel heavy-duty trucks and fleet vehicles

H.R.6260 – Castro (TX)/ McGovern (MA)/ Capuano (MA)/, Ensure Members of Congress have access to Federal facilities in order to exercise their Constitutional oversight responsibilities
27 additional original co-sponsors.

H.R.6274 – Welch (VT) To amend IRS Code of 1986 to extend tax credits related to electric cars

H.R.6538 - Welch (VT), To authorize long-term contracts for Federal purchases of energy.

H.R.6566 — Courtney (CT), To amend title 38, United States Code, to remove the manifestation period required for the presumptions of service connection for chloracne, porphyria cutanea tarda, and acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents.

H.R.6653 – Esty (CT)/Comstock (VA)/Cicilline (RI), Encourage the research and use of innovative materials and associated techniques in the construction and preservation of the domestic transportation and water infrastructure systems.

H.R.6658 – Engel (NY)/Welch (VT), To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny certain tax benefits to persons responsible for the discharge of oil or other hazardous substances into navigable waters of the United States.

Regards,

Paul

617.918.1514

EPA Region 1

